

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SYSTEM  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
for the  
TITLE III AND TITLE V PERFORMANCE  
MEASUREMENT SYSTEM**

The U.S. Department of Education has initiated a process to develop a new performance measurement system for the Title III and Title V programs in accordance with Federal mandates, such as the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA). The goal of the process is to solicit community input that will lead to the development of a system that achieves several important objectives, including:

- Improving the information available about the diverse activities and outcomes associated with Title III and Title V projects;
- Finding ways to document, convey, and implement these diverse activities in a coherent and effective way to enhance policymaker understanding of the overall accomplishments of the programs; and
- Disseminating information about best practices and successful models to a broad array of constituencies, including the public, current and prospective grantees, and Federal policymakers, in order to strengthen the institutions served by Title III and Title V, and create the opportunity to replicate what works.

The process is designed to reach the diverse community of institutions that make up the Title III and Title V grantee

populations, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), Historically Black Graduate Institutions (HBGIs), and a significant number of 2-year and 4-year colleges that serve students from minority and low-income backgrounds. Each of these types of institutions has a unique history and purpose associated with these titles that must be reflected in the performance measurement system.

The process will include the following activities:

- *Preliminary Focus Groups and Outreach with Key Institutional Constituencies.* The focus groups, to be held during the Fall/Early Winter of 2000, are designed to elicit broad input from the community of institutions eligible for Title III and Title V assistance, and build upon existing efforts and progress. Three to four focus groups will be held in various locales around the country to discuss current performance measurement requirements, Federal issues and concerns, and specific suggestions for what a new performance measurement system might entail. These focus groups will be facilitated by external consultants familiar with the institutions and communities that comprise Title III and Title V grantees.

Outreach to key institutional constituencies will be carried out by IDUES and OPE staff. It will occur through written and electronic means; meetings with the associations that represent the institutions, with Title III and Title V project directors, presidents, and other institutional leadership; participation in national and regional conferences; technical assistance workshops; and site visits.

- *Preliminary Performance Measurement System Development.* Working with external consultants, the

Department of Education will use the input provided from the focus groups and from the analysis of Federal data sources and information (including the performance measurement systems used in other programs) to construct a preliminary performance measurement system plan. The goal is to develop a draft revised reporting format that replaces the existing annual report form. This will be completed by early Spring of 2001.

- *Follow-up Focus Groups.* A second round of focus groups with the community of institutions eligible for Title III and Title V assistance will be held in the Spring of 2001. These focus groups will allow for feedback on the draft revised reporting format, and allow for additional suggestions and recommendations.
- *Case Studies of Best Practices and Successful Models.* Beginning in early 2001 and continuing through the Spring, case studies of 3-5 institutions that are Title III or Title V grantees will be conducted. The goal of the case studies is to discover and explain ways in which Title III and Title V funds have been utilized and demonstrated clear, positive results for institutions and students. The case study institutions will represent different institutional constituencies and geographic areas. External consultants (including those associated with the focus groups) will manage a site-based review process and ensure that a broad array of lessons are learned from the case studies.
- *Finalized Reporting System and Case Study Dissemination.* A final version of the revised annual report will be developed by early Fall of 2001 and submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval. Publication of case studies and training for Department of Education staff on the new system will take place in the Fall of 2001.